

Issue NE-CW3104, released August 2, 2004, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541 or e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov. Homepage - <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending August 1, 2004, wheat harvest neared completion while above average crop conditions continued to be a reflection of the favorable growing season, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Dryland fields are beginning to need rain as the crops deal with the heat and available moisture. Other producer activities included oat and hay harvest and irrigation activities.

Weather Summary: Temperatures for the week averaged 3 to 8 degrees below normals. Precipitation was statewide with amounts ranging to over one inch, mostly in the western half of the state.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending August 1, 2004

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Topsoil				
Very Short	11	11	32	32
Short	28	24	40	34
Adequate	58	61	28	33
Surplus	3	4	0	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	26	28	31	34
Short	32	28	40	33
Adequate	42	43	29	33
Surplus	0	1	0	0
Days Suitable	5.6	5.3	6.6	6.4

Field Crops Report: Corn condition rated 1 percent very poor, 2 poor, 12 fair, 49 good, and 36 excellent, above last year and average. Irrigated fields rated 89 percent good and excellent while dryland fields rated 81. This compares to 76 and 33, respectively, a year ago. Silking was 93 percent complete, ahead of last year at 89 and average at 90. Sixteen percent of the acreage had reached the dough stage, ahead of last year at 14 but behind average at 23.

Soybeans condition rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 15 fair, 53 good, and 27 excellent, above last year and average. Eighty-five percent of the acreage had bloomed, same as last year but behind average at 87. Forty-six percent had set pods, ahead of last year at 30 and average at 40.

Sorghum condition improved and rated 1 percent very poor, 2 poor, 24 fair, 53 good, and 20 excellent, above last year and average. Twenty-eight percent had headed out, ahead of last year at 25 but behind average at 38.

Wheat harvest progressed to 97 percent complete, behind last year and average at 98.

Oat harvest progressed to 85 percent cut, behind last year and average at 87.

Dry beans condition rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 23 fair, 54 good, and 16 excellent. Forty-six percent of the acreage had bloomed, behind last year at 83 and average at 78. Fourteen percent had set pods, behind last year at 43 and average at 32.

Alfalfa conditions improved and rated 4 percent very poor, 11 poor, 24 fair, 43 good, and 18 excellent, above last year and average. Second cutting activities were 93 percent complete, behind last year and average at 97. Third cutting activities progressed to 10 percent harvested, behind last year and average at 20. Wild hay condition rated 9 percent very poor, 11 poor, 28 fair, 41 good, and 11 excellent.

Crop Progress : Nebraska, Week Ending August 1, 2004

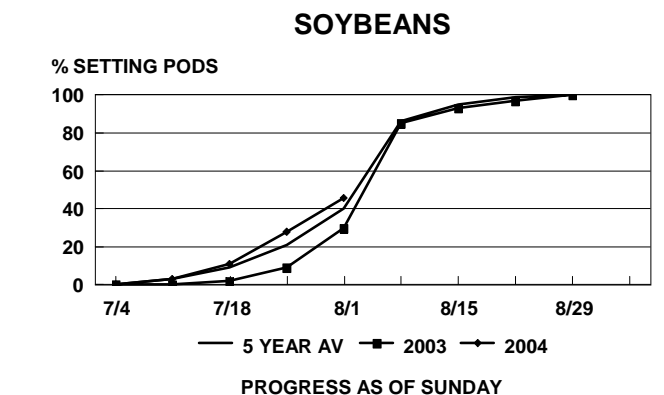
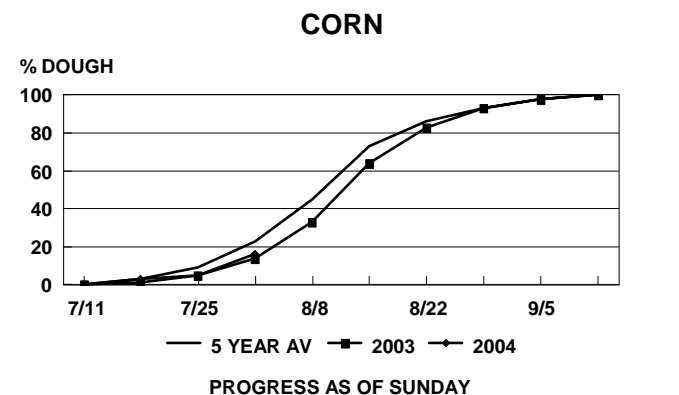
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	10	3	20	20
Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	93	83	97	97
Corn Silked	93	81	89	90
Corn Dough	16	5	14	23
Oats Harvested	85	63	87	87
Sorghum Headed	28	9	25	38
Soybeans Blooming	85	74	85	87
Soybeans Setting Pods	46	28	30	40
Wheat Harvested	97	92	98	98

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending August 1, 2004

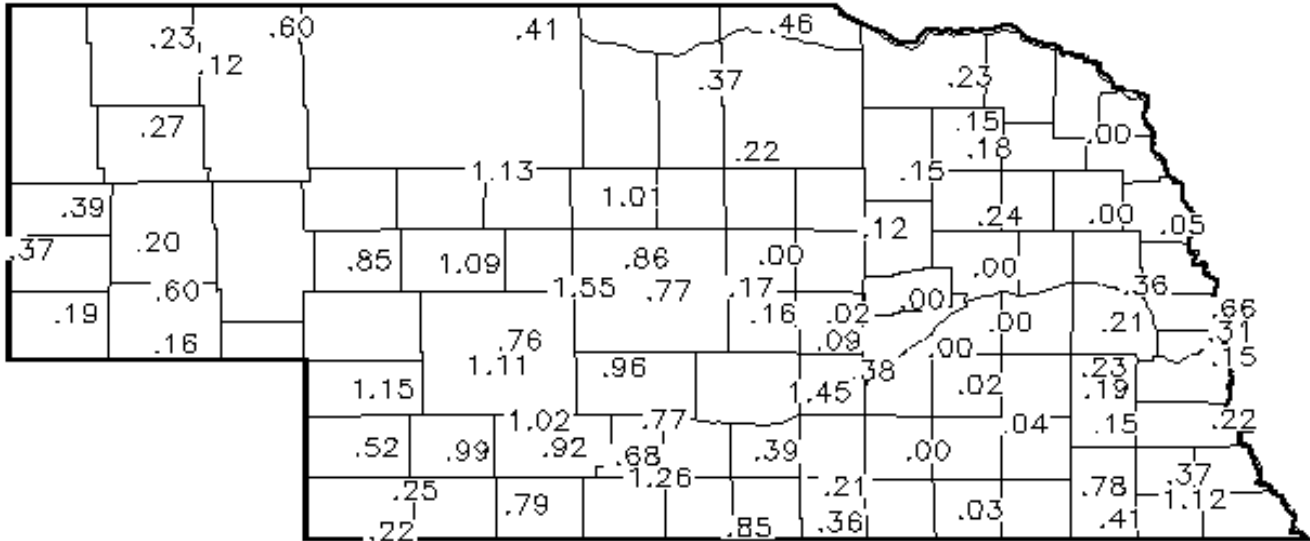
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Alfalfa	4	11	24	43	18
Corn	1	2	12	49	36
Sorghum	1	2	24	53	20
Soybeans	1	4	15	53	27

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 10 percent very poor, 14 poor, 31 fair, 36 good, and 9 excellent, above a year ago and average.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm. For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2004.htm>.



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending August 1, 2004



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - August 1, 2004

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.35	.42	.13	.59	.19	.71	.77	.25
Total since April 1	8.45	12.25	15.09	12.70	12.87	14.43	13.21	14.18
Normal since April 1	10.19	12.23	13.90	13.19	14.44	11.85	12.95	14.83
Total as % of normal	82%	100%	108%	96%	89%	121%	102%	95%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, August 1, 2004

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	96	49	69	-3	124	1392	1610
	Scottsbluff	99	49	70	-3	127	1519	1609
	Sidney	98	44	69	-4	130	1448	1659
NC	Ainsworth	97	53	72	-3	147	1565	1840
	Arthur	96	49	69	-5	127	1465	1758
	O'Neill	95	51	72	-4	142	1579	1880
NE	Concord	88	50	69	-7	133	1621	1943
	Elgin	92	53	71	-5	140	1629	1912
	West Point	88	47	69	-8	134	1739	2022
C	Grand Island	93	52	71	-5	140	1799	1904
	Lexington	98	52	72	-3	145	1855	1862
	Ord	95	51	72	-4	145	1708	1885
EC	Lincoln	95	51	74	-4	159	1988	2090
	Central City	91	51	70	-6	137	1819	1935
	Mead	90	46	70	-8	138	1867	2072
SW	Champion	95	48	69	-6	124	1637	1783
	North Platte	99	49	71	-4	136	1711	1812
	Curtis	98	51	71	-4	141	1792	1817
SC	Arapahoe	96	43	68	-6	120	1476	1755
	Minden	93	51	70	-5	137	1839	1885
	Red Cloud	97	51	72	-4	148	1935	1925
SE	Beatrice	95	48	71	-7	144	1971	2090
	Clay Center	94	49	70	-6	136	1808	1922
	Nemaha	90	53	73	-5	156	2045	2106

Source: High Plains Climate Center.